

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

180 PROMENADE CIRCLE, SUITE 115
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-2939



September 1, 2010

File Number: G.10-08-005

David Rubcic, Associate Civil Engineer
City of Hollister
375 Fifth Street
Hollister, CA 95023-3876

Re: GO 88-B Request for Authority to Alter the Third Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001EB-11.70, DOT No. 752417X in the City of Hollister, San Benito County.

Dear Mr. Rubcic:

This refers to your letter dated July 19, 2010 and received by us on July 22, 2010 requesting authorization pursuant to Commission General Order (GO) 88-B to alter an at-grade highway-rail crossing of the Union Pacific (UP) track in the City of Hollister (City), San Benito County. A follow up set of plans which were requested by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) was received on August 12, 2010. The crossing is identified as the Third Street Highway-Rail Crossing, CPUC Crossing No. 001EB-11.70, DOT No. 752417X.

The Third Street crossing is currently a single-track crossing on the Hollister branch line, and is equipped with two Commission Standard 1-R (crossbuck signs on posts) warning devices. UP operates 2 freight trains per day, 3 days a week, over this crossing.

The City states in its GO88-B request letter that providing crossing gates at the intersection of Third Street and the UPRR tracks will improve the crossing rail safety. This project is done in conjunction with the Section 130 Program.

The proposed alterations as indicated in the request letter and/or shown in the attachments shall consist of:

- Replacement of the two Commission Standard 1-R warning devices with two Commission Standard 9 (flashing light signal assemblies with automatic gates) warning devices.
- Installation of curb and gutter, paving and sidewalk in the southwest quadrant, closing Sally Street to through traffic.
- Installation of two barricades in Sally Street to reinforce the Sally Street closure.
- Application/reapplication of appropriate RXR pavement markings, stop bars and W10-1 railroad crossing advance warning signs in compliance with CA MUTCD.

Staff has investigated the City's request, and finds it adequately addresses compliance and safety. As the City and UP are in agreement as to the design and apportionments of the cost under the provisions of GO 88-B, you may proceed with the improvements as described in your request letter and attachments and summarized above.

Temporary traffic controls shall be provided in compliance with Section 8A.05, Temporary Traffic Control Zones, of the CA MUTCD, published by Caltrans.

All parties shall comply with all applicable rules, including Commission General Orders and CA MUTCD.

This project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environment Quality Act of 1970, as amended [California Public Resources Code 21084].

This authorization shall expire if the above conditions are not complied with or if the work is not completed within two years of the date of this letter. Upon written request to this office, the time to complete the project may be extended. Any written request for a time extension must include concurrence letters by involved parties in support of the time extension. If an extension is requested, the Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Section (RCES) may reevaluate the crossing prior to granting an extension.

Within 30 days after completion of this project, the City shall notify RCES that the authorized work is completed, by submitting a completed Commission Standard Form G titled *Report of Changes at Highway Grade Crossings and Separations*. Form G requirements and forms can be obtained at the CPUC web site Form G page at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/formg>. This report may be submitted electronically to rces@cpuc.ca.gov as outlined on the web page.

If you have any questions, please contact Felix Ko at (415) 703-3722 or fko@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Daren Gilbert, Supervisor
Rail Crossings Engineering Section
Consumer Protection and Safety Division

C: James Smith, Manager Industry & Public Projects
Union Pacific Railroad
9451 Atkinson Street
Roseville, CA 95747